

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04202 121125Z

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ACTION MC-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3814

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4202

PASS COMMERCE

E.O. 10152: N/A

TAGS: MILI, YO

SUBJECT: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. YUGOSLAV REGULATIONS ON FIREARM IMPORTATION FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES, FOREIGN TRADE AND INTERNAL SECURITY, WHICH DO NOT INFLUENCE EACH OTHER.

2. IMPORTS OF HUNTING RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS FALL UNDER GLOBAL IMPORT QUOTAS (GDK) AND NO LICENSE REQUIRED. IMPORTS OF ALL OTHER FIREARMS (BTN 93.01) REQUIRE LICENSE ISSUED BY FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR FOREIGN TRADE. (OFFICIAL GAZETTE NO. 58 OF 1972). ISSUANCE OF LICENSE IS DISCRETIONARY. CONDITIONS FOR LICENSE ISSUANCE, BEYOND REQUIREMENT THAT IMPORT BE THROUGH FIRM REGISTERED FOR FOREIGN TRADE, ARE NOT PUBLISHED BUT ARE BASED ON FOREIGN TRADE CONSIDERATIONS.

3. LAW ON ACQUIRING, POSSESSING AND CARRYING WEAPONS PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE NO. 52 OF 1967 CONTROLS FIREARMS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY REASONS.

4. ARTICLE 5 OF LAW REQUIRES INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS TO GET PERMITS FOR PURCHASE, POSSESSION AND/OR CARRYING FIREARMS
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04202 121125Z

FROM LOCAL OFFICE OF SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS (POLICE).

IT ALSO APPLIES TO FIREARMS BROUGHT INTO YUGOSLAVIA BY PRIVATE CITIZENS. ISSUANCE OF PERMITS IS DISCRETIONARY BUT LIBERAL IN PRACTICE. BASIC CONDITIONS ARE ABSENCE OF CRIMINAL INDICTMENT OR CONVICTION, MENTAL STABILITY AND DEMONSTRATION OF NEED AND PROPOSED USE.

5. ARTICLE 23 OF ABOVE LAW REQUIRES FIREARMS DEALERS TO RECORD AND REPORT SALES OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION.
SILBERMAN

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